

**(b) Finality of board decision**

In the event of an appeal by a contractor or the Government from a decision of any agency board pursuant to section 607 of this title, notwithstanding any contract provision, regulation, or rules of law to the contrary, the decision of the agency board on any question of law shall not be final or conclusive, but the decision on any question of fact shall be final and conclusive and shall not be set aside unless the decision is fraudulent, or arbitrary, or capricious, or so grossly erroneous as to necessarily imply bad faith, or if such decision is not supported by substantial evidence.

**(c) Remand or retention of case**

In any appeal by a contractor or the Government from a decision of an agency board pursuant to section 607 of this title, the court may render an opinion and judgement and remand the case for further action by the agency board or by the executive agency as appropriate, with such direction as the court considers just and proper.

**(d) Consolidation**

If two or more suits arising from one contract are filed in the United States Court of Federal Claims and one or more agency boards, for the convenience of parties or witnesses or in the interest of justice, the United States Court of Federal Claims may order the consolidation of such suits in that court or transfer any suits to or among the agency boards involved.

**(e) Judgments as to fewer than all claims**

In any suit filed pursuant to this chapter involving two or more claims, counterclaims, cross-claims, or third-party claims, and where a portion of one such claim can be divided for purposes of decision or judgment, and in any such suit where multiple parties are involved, the court, whenever such action is appropriate, may enter a judgment as to one or more but fewer than all of the claims, portions thereof, or parties.

**(f) Advisory opinions**

(1) Whenever an action involving an issue described in paragraph (2) is pending in a district court of the United States, the district court may request a board of contract appeals to provide the court with an advisory opinion on the matters of contract interpretation at issue.

(2) An issue referred to in paragraph (1) is any issue that could be the proper subject of a final decision of a contracting officer appealable under this chapter.

(3) A district court shall direct any request under paragraph (1) to the board of contract appeals having jurisdiction under this chapter to adjudicate appeals of contract claims under the contract or contracts being interpreted by the court.

(4) After receiving a request for an advisory opinion under paragraph (1), a board of contract appeals shall provide the advisory opinion in a timely manner to the district court making the request.

(Pub. L. 95-563, §10, Nov. 1, 1978, 92 Stat. 2388; Pub. L. 97-164, title I, §§157, 160(a)(15), 161(10), Apr. 2, 1982, 96 Stat. 47-49; Pub. L. 102-572, title

IX, §902(b)(1), Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4516; Pub. L. 103-355, title II, §2354, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3323.)

## AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 103-355 added subsec. (f).

1992—Subsecs. (a)(1), (d). Pub. L. 102-572 substituted “United States Court of Federal Claims” for “United States Claims Court” wherever appearing.

1982—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 97-164, §161(10), substituted “Claims Court” for “Court of Claims”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 97-164, §157, struck out “, or, in its discretion and in lieu of remand it may retain the case and take such additional evidence or action as may be necessary for final disposition of the case” after “with such direction as the court considers just and proper”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 97-164, §160(a)(15), substituted “United States Claims Court” for “Court of Claims” in two places.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

For effective date and applicability of amendment by Pub. L. 103-355, see section 10001 of Pub. L. 103-355, set out as a note under section 251 of this title.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1992 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 102-572 effective Oct. 29, 1992, see section 911 of Pub. L. 102-572, set out as a note under section 171 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1982 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-164 effective Oct. 1, 1982, see section 402 of Pub. L. 97-164, set out as a note under section 171 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

## SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 603 of this title; title 28 sections 1295, 1346, 1491.

**§ 610. Subpena, discovery, and deposition**

A member of an agency board of contract appeals may administer oaths to witnesses, authorize depositions and discovery proceedings, and require by subpoena the attendance of witnesses, and production of books and papers, for the taking of testimony or evidence by deposition or in the hearing of an appeal by the agency board. In case of contumacy or refusal to obey a subpoena by a person who resides, is found, or transacts business within the jurisdiction of a United States district court, the court, upon application of the agency board through the Attorney General; or upon application by the board of contract appeals of the Tennessee Valley Authority, shall have jurisdiction to issue the person an order requiring him to appear before the agency board or a member thereof, to produce evidence or to give testimony, or both. Any failure of any such person to obey the order of the court may be punished by the court as a contempt thereof.

(Pub. L. 95-563, §11, Nov. 1, 1978, 92 Stat. 2388.)

**§ 611. Interest**

Interest on amounts found due contractors on claims shall be paid to the contractor from the date the contracting officer receives the claim pursuant to section 605(a) of this title from the contractor until payment thereof. The interest provided for in this section shall be paid at the